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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P. O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400



PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10001074-1

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IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Mark A. Smith et al.

Confirmation No.: 2505

Application No.: 09/839,385

Examiner: Michael P. Nghiem

Filing Date: Apr. 20, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2863

Title: INK CONTAINER CONFIGURED TO ESTABLISH RELIABLE FLUIDIC CONNECTION TO A RECEIVING STATION

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) 37 CFR 1.114

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 CFR 1.114 is effective on May 20, 2000. If the above- application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under CFR 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

Submission under 37 CFR 1.114

( ) Previously submitted:

( ) Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

( ) Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_.

(X) Enclosed:

(X) Amendment/Reply

( ) Affidavit(s)/Declarations(s)

( ) Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Miscellaneous

( ) Suspension of action is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months.

The fee for this Suspension is (37 CFR 1.17(ii)) \$130.00

( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_.

03/02/2004 AWONDAF1 00000078 082025 09839385

01 FC:1801 770.00 DA

(X) RCE filing fee \$770.00

( ) A Petition for Extension of Time

( ) one month	\$110.00
( ) two months	\$420.00
( ) three months	\$950.00
( ) four months	\$1480.00

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$770.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account **08-2025** under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees.

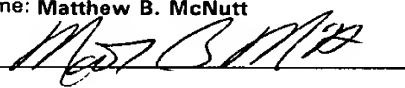
(X) A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

(X) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Date of Deposit: Feb. 23, 2004  
OR

( ) I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages:

Typed Name: **Matthew B. McNutt**

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted,

**Mark A. Smith et al.**

By 

**Matthew B. McNutt**

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **39,766**

Date: **Feb. 23, 2004**

Telephone No.: **(512) 231-0531**



**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**  
**Examining Group Number 2863**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Mark A. Smith et al.	Examiner:	Michael P. Nghiem
Serial No.:	09/839,385	Group Art Unit:	2863
Filed:	April 20, 2001	Docket No.:	10001074-1
Title:	INK CONTAINER CONFIGURED TO ESTABLISH RELIABLE FLUIDIC CONNECTION TO A RECEIVING STATION		

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**MAR 03 2004**

Dear Sir/Madam:

This Amendment accompanies the Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) filed herewith, and is responsive to the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action mailed January 7, 2004. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: